



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## NITRO UPDATE:

### **IOWA MAN INDICTED FOR CONSPIRACY TO DISTRIBUTE METH IN DAVIESS COUNTY**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kellerton, Iowa, man was indicted by a federal grand jury today on methamphetamine and firearms charges. Today's indictment, Graves said, is the result of work completed by the NITRO Task Force.

**Eric S. Edick, Jr.**, 26, of Kellerton, was charged in a five-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Kansas City.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges that **Edick** conspired to distribute methamphetamine between Jan. 1, 2004, and Feb. 7, 2005, in Daviess County, Mo.

Count Two of the federal indictment alleges that **Edick** possessed with intent to distribute methamphetamine on Feb. 7, 2005, in Daviess County.

Count Three of the federal indictment alleges that **Edick** was a felon in possession of a firearm on Feb. 7, 2005, in Daviess County. The indictment alleges that **Edick** was in possession of a loaded Hi-Point 9 mm handgun. Under federal statutes, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Edick** has a 2001 criminal felony conviction for distribution, delivery and manufacture of a controlled substance, two 1998 criminal felony conviction for possession of a controlled substance and receiving stolen property, and a 1996 criminal felony conviction for burglary.

Count Four of the federal indictment alleges that **Edick** was in possession of a firearm during and in relation to a drug trafficking crime on Feb. 7, 2005.

Count Five of the federal indictment is a forfeiture count and would require **Edick** to

forfeit any proceeds used to facilitate the conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine, including approximately \$1,872 and a 2001 Chevrolet S-10 pick-up truck seized on Feb. 7, 2005, following a vehicle stop and the defendant's initial arrest.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the indictment are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

This case is being prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Patrick J. O'Connor. The case was investigated by the Northwest Missouri Interagency Team Response Operation.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

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